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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Replace page 6 last full paragraph with the following new paragraph:

According to the maraging steel, oxide-base non-metallic inclusions can be reduced in size and amount (i.e. the amount is that of large oxide inclusions each having a size of more than 20 μm). It is also possible to reduce the size of nitride-base non-metallic inclusions ~~such as TiC and TiCN~~such as TiN and TiCN. Thus, the maraging steel has an improved fatigue strength.

Replace page 33, first full paragraph with the following new paragraph:

From the above-described results, it has been seen that in the maraging steel of the present invention, the oxide-base non-metallic inclusions can be reduced in size and amount and that it is also possible to reduce the sizes of the nitride-base non-metallic inclusions ~~such as TiC and TiCN~~ such as TiN and TiCN and that the maraging steel has a superior fatigue strength.

Replace page 33, last full paragraph with the following new paragraph:

When the method of producing the maraging steel of the present invention is applied, the oxide-base non-metallic inclusions can be reduced in size and amount, it is also possible to reduce the sizes of the nitride-base non-metallic inclusions ~~such as TiC and TiCN~~such as TiN and TiCN, and the present invention is optimum for the application requiring a strict fatigue strength. The present invention is optimum for the representative application such as the component for the continuously variable transmission of the automobile engine.